

Office of Personnel Management

§ 451.201

a rating of record at the fully successful level (or equivalent) or above, as designed and applied, must make meaningful distinctions based on levels of performance.

[60 FR 43946, Aug. 23, 1995, as amended at 69 FR 70359, Dec. 6, 2004; 70 FR 31287, May 31, 2005; 70 FR 74995, Dec. 19, 2005; 72 FR 1270, Jan. 11, 2007]

§ 451.105 Award restrictions.

(a) In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 4508, agencies shall not grant awards under this subpart during a Presidential election period to employees who are—

(1) In a Senior Executive Service position and not a career appointee as defined under 5 U.S.C. 3132(a)(4); or

(2) In an excepted service position of a confidential or policy-determining character (schedule C).

(b) In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 4509, agencies shall not grant cash awards under this subpart to employees appointed by the President with Senate confirmation who serve in—

(1) An Executive Schedule position, or

(2) A position for which pay is set in statute by reference to a section or level of the Executive Schedule.

§ 451.106 Agency responsibilities.

(a) In establishing and operating its award program(s), an agency shall assure that a program does not conflict with or violate any other law or Governmentwide regulation.

(b) When a recommended award would grant more than \$10,000 to an individual employee, the agency shall submit the recommendation to OPM for approval.

(c) Agencies shall provide for communicating with employees and supervisors (e.g., through formal training) about the relevant parts of their award program(s).

(d) Agencies shall evaluate their award program(s).

(e) Agencies shall document all cash and time off awards in compliance with instructions in the OPM Operating Manual, THE GUIDE TO PROCESSING PERSONNEL ACTIONS, for sale by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents.

(f) Agencies shall file award documents in the Official Personnel Folder

in compliance with instructions in the OPM Operating Manual, THE GUIDE TO PERSONNEL RECORDKEEPING, for sale by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents.

(g) Agencies shall report award data to the Central Personnel Data File in Compliance with instructions in the OPM Operating Manual, FEDERAL WORKFORCE REPORTING SYSTEMS, for sale by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents.

(h) Agencies shall maintain and submit to OPM such records as OPM may require.

(i) Agencies shall give due weight to an award granted under this part in qualifying and selecting an employee for promotion as provided in 5 U.S.C. 3362.

(j) Agencies shall take any corrective action required by OPM to ensure conformance with applicable law, regulation, and OPM policy.

§ 451.107 OPM responsibilities.

(a) OPM shall review and approve or disapprove each agency recommendation for an award that would grant more than \$10,000 to an individual employee.

(b) When a recommended award would grant more than \$25,000 to an individual employee, OPM shall review the recommendation and submit it (if approved) to the President for final approval.

(c) OPM shall review and approve or disapprove a request from the head of an Executive agency to extend the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 4505a to any category of employees within that agency that would not be covered otherwise.

(d) OPM may evaluate the operation and application of an agency's award program(s).

Subpart B—Presidential Awards

SOURCE: 51 FR 8419, Mar. 11, 1986, unless otherwise noted.

§ 451.201 Authority and coverage.

(a) Under chapter 45 of title 5, United States Code, the President may pay a

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cash award to and incur necessary expenses for the honorary recognition of an employee who:

(b) Awards granted under paragraph (a) of this section are subject to the restrictions as specified in § 451.105.

(1) By his/her suggestion, invention or other personal effort contributes to the efficiency, economy, or other improvement of Government operations, or achieves a significant reduction in paperwork; or

(2) Performs an exceptionally meritorious special act or service in the public interest in connection with or related to official employment.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, this subpart applies to employees as defined by section 2105 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) This subpart applies to agencies as defined in section 4501 of title 5, United States Code.

[51 FR 8419, Mar. 11, 1986, as amended at 58 FR 65534, Dec. 15, 1993; 60 FR 43947, Aug. 23, 1995; 67 FR 52596, Aug. 13, 2002]

§ 451.202 Payment.

(a) A Presidential award is paid by the agency(ies) primarily benefiting from the employee contribution.

(b) A Presidential award may be in addition to an agency award under subpart A of this part.

§ 451.203 Responsibilities of the Office of Personnel Management.

(a) The Office of Personnel Management, in accordance with Executive Order 10717, as amended, shall review agency recommendations for the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service and recommend to the President which career employees should receive this award.

(b) Under Executive Order 11228, section 2, the Office of Personnel Management has the authority to determine the activity or activities primarily benefiting from any suggestion, invention, or other contribution which forms the basis for a Presidential award under 5 U.S.C. 4504.

[51 FR 8419, Mar. 11, 1986, as amended at 58 FR 65534, Dec. 15, 1993; 67 FR 52596, Aug. 13, 2002]

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Subpart C—Presidential Rank Awards

SOURCE: 67 FR 52596, Aug. 13, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

§ 451.301 Ranks for the Senior Executive Service.

(a) The circumstances under which the President may award the rank of Distinguished Executive and Meritorious Executive to a Senior Executive Service (SES) career appointee are set forth in 5 U.S.C. 4507.

(b) To be eligible for a rank award, a senior executive must:

(1) Hold a career appointment in the SES, as defined at 5 U.S.C. 3132(a)(4), on the nomination deadline set by OPM;

(2) Be an employee of the agency, as defined at 5 U.S.C. 3132(a)(1), on the nomination deadline set by OPM; and

(3) Have at least 3 years of career or career-type Federal civilian service at the SES level. Service need not be continuous.

(i) Qualifying service includes appointments in the SES, the Senior Foreign Service, the Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service, and similar senior executive systems.

(ii) Qualifying service does not include noncareer, limited term, or limited emergency appointments in the SES or their equivalent, Scientific and Professional (ST) appointments, and Senior-Level (SL) appointments.

(c) Each agency may nominate up to 9 percent of its SES career appointees for rank awards.

§ 451.302 Ranks for senior career employees.

(a) The circumstances under which the President may award the rank of Distinguished Senior Professional and Meritorious Senior Professional to a senior career employee are set forth in 5 U.S.C. 4507a.

(b) To be eligible for a rank award, a senior career employee must:

(1) Hold a career appointment in a Senior-Level (SL) or Scientific-Professional (ST) position that is subject to OPM position allocations under part 319 of this chapter and paid under 5 U.S.C. 5376 on the nomination deadline set by OPM;